



Dickinson Township
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PARKS & RECREATION MEETING
June 23, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Jane Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:10pm at the Dickinson Township Municipal Building located at 219 Mountain View Road in Mount Holly Springs, PA 17065. Those present recited the pledge of allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jane Mitchell, Beth Kikla, Bill Rodier.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Stephen Luckie, Molly Baehr.

VISITORS: Denise Gembusia.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Beth Kikla motioned to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion was seconded by Bill Rodier and passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. May 21, 2014 Park & Recreation Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Beth Kikla to approve the May 21, 2014 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Bill Rodier and passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL STATUS

The current Park & Recreation Fund account balance is \$71,970.17 with no accounts payable.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Planning for expenditures in remainder of 2014.

The Park and Recreation Committee discussed options for approximately \$63,000 of developer fees that are nearing the three year timeline and may have to be refunded to the developer who submitted them. As per the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) and Municipal Planning Code (MPC), P&R Developer funds have to be "utilized" within three years. Utilized means expended. However, if a contract has been signed committing those funds, the township will not be required to refund a developer's request for reimbursement of the unused funds. The three year date is a firm date set by the MPC and Township Ordinance. Bill Rodier asked if the township could contract for future work. The township would not be able to commit to a specific vendor without going through the bidding process if bidding applies. The Township Manager's policy is to always obtain at least three estimates on any purchase or work to be performed, whether bidding applies or not.

Stuart Park consumers have expressed the need for running (potable) water for hand washing and an operable flushing toilet (e.g. septic tank). There have been complaints about the portable toilet overflowing, having no

toilet paper and not being cleaned. Township staff has contacted the contractor and is monitoring the situation.

According to research conducted by former Park & Recreation member, Rob Robinson, a previous Board of Supervisors approved well drilling at Stuart Park. No site surveys or feasibility studies were conducted after the approval. Although there is a previous approval, per se, the issue will need to be re-examined and approved by the Board of Supervisors to ensure compliance with current laws and standards.

Three companies were identified as potential well drillers. Park & Recreation may obtain estimates from them or other companies in order to be better prepared before approaching the Board of Supervisors. Staff will handle bidding paperwork and compliance if it is deemed necessary for this project. Bidding and contract proposals are managed by the Township Manager or staff as per her direction, only once approved by the Board of Supervisors.

The Park & Recreation Committee listed some issues and questions regarding long-term planning for Stuart Park, including well drilling and septic tank installation. They are as follows:

- A.** Does the community desire potable running water and flushing toilet (e.g. septic tank) OR do they desire to continue with the more rural and rustic characteristics?
- B.** If the community wants to keep the rural characteristics, what are the alternatives for expending the \$63K? There was a brief discussion on timelines and definitions of adjudicating funds.
- C.** What is the ultimate long term goal for Stuart Park? This has not been defined or agreed upon. The Park and Recreation Committee must first determine this long term goal. This can be discussed further during the July 2014 Park and Recreation Committee meeting.
- D.** If potable water and septic tank become the long term goal:
 - What is the total cost estimate for well and septic tank?
 - What are the next steps?
 - What can be accomplished in 2014?

➤ Note: 100 foot isolation distance from septic to well is required to include any neighboring wells and septic.
- E.** To meet isolation distance requirements, a site survey should be conducted. What is the cost of a survey should the Park and Recreation Committee determine that well and septic are the best usage of \$63K resources?
 - Note: Any such survey should include wells built to the specifications of potable water and non-potable water.
- F.** Are staff, officials and committee members satisfied that they have correctly identified that running water (potable or non-potable) and a flushing toilet are the highest priority for township residents? Is the informal input used to determine this demand adequate?
- G.** If a well for Stuart Park is not pursued, what alternatives should be considered for the \$63K in the 2014 calendar year?

Jane will pull prior information from Park & Recreation discussions on the Stuart Park well and septic issues and research whether the Township is eligible for current Land Partnership Grants. She will also make phone calls to different companies to determine estimated well drilling costs.

Denise will review the 2012 surveys to determine a more complete number of resident concerns and research when the original Board of Supervisors' approval was given.

OLD BUSINESS

1. *Park & Recreation Committee Vacancies (4).*
2. *Posting of Stuart Park/Barnitz Mill.*
3. *Lindenwood Park Trail Update.*
4. *Next Meeting: Monday, July 28, 2014 at 6:00pm.*

Beth Kikla motioned to table all old business items until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Bill Rodier and passed unanimously.

ANY OTHER DISCUSSION & ADJOURNMENT

Beth Kikla made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm. The motion was seconded by Bill Rodier and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Gembusia
Township Secretary/Treasurer